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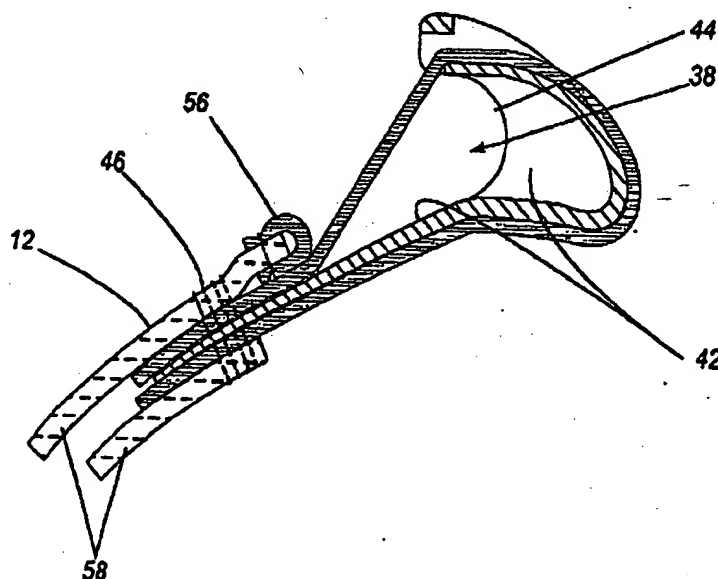
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(54) **Speed lacing device**

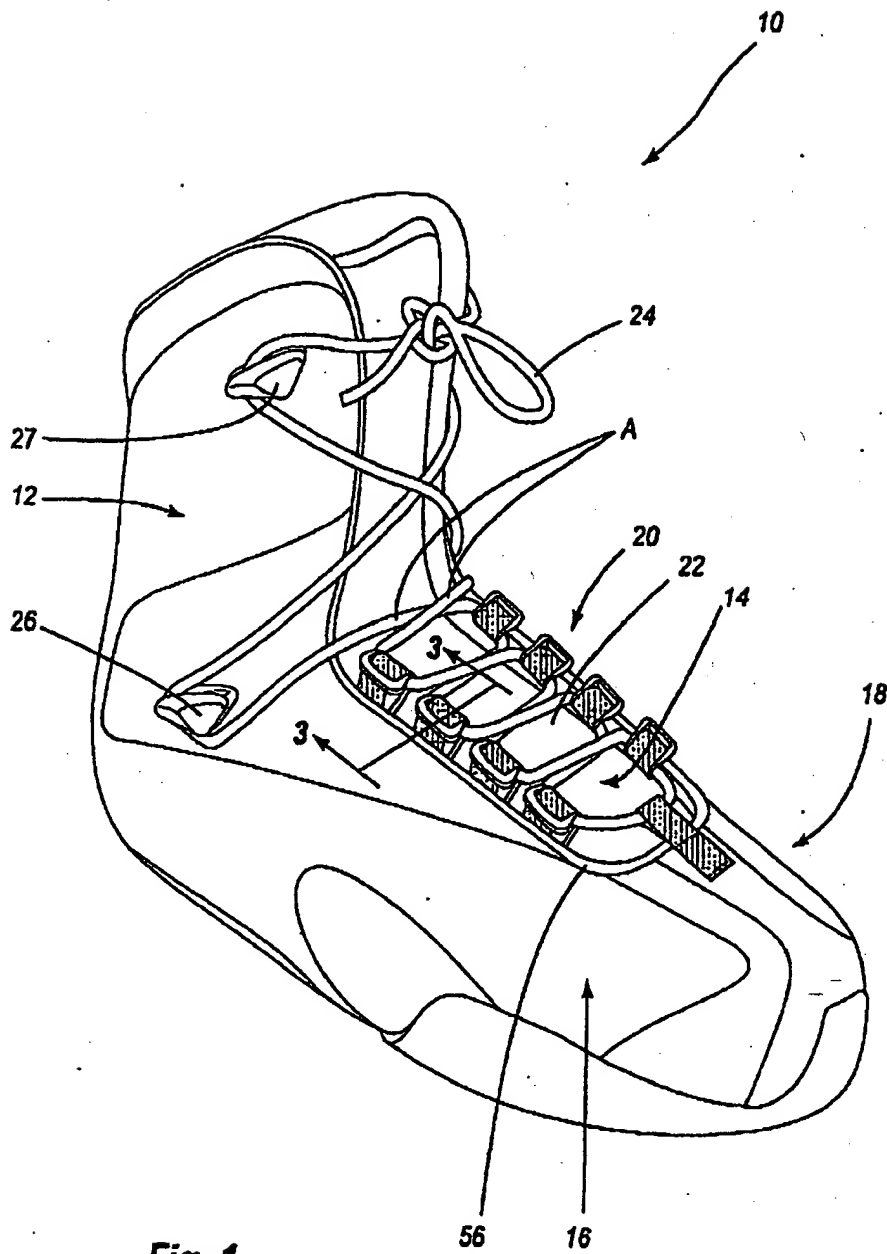
(57) A speed lacing device for an article of footwear having a rigid portion comprising a curved neck and a fastening tail that together define an almost-friction-free sliding surface for a lacing cord (24), the lacing cord (24)

being in contact with the sliding surface in either a state of tension or a state of relaxation. The speed lacing device also having a flexible portion that extends from the rigid portion to form an upper half of a closed loop through which the lacing cord is threaded.

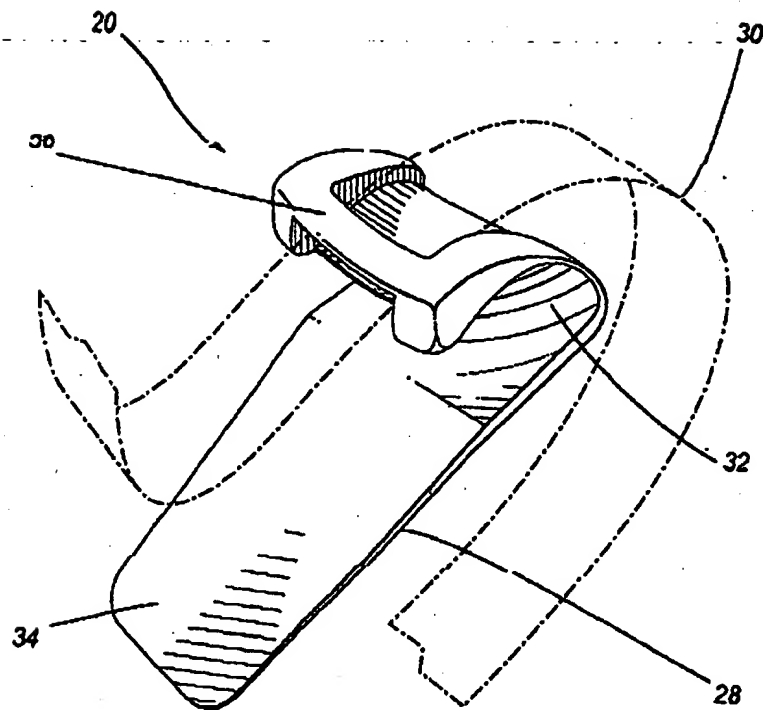


**Fig. 3**

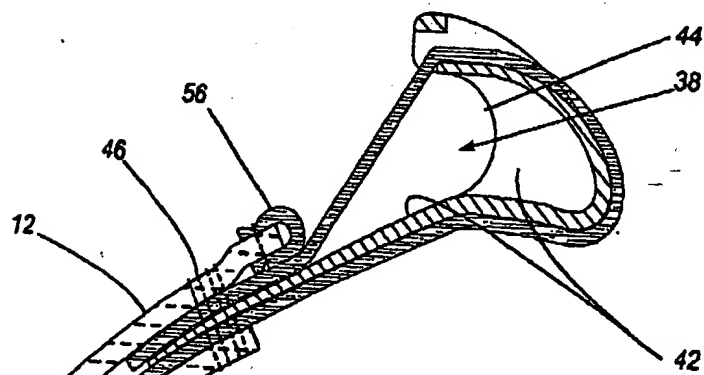
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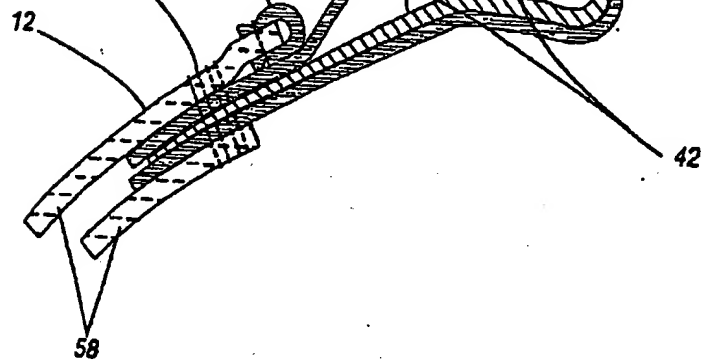
**Fig. 1**

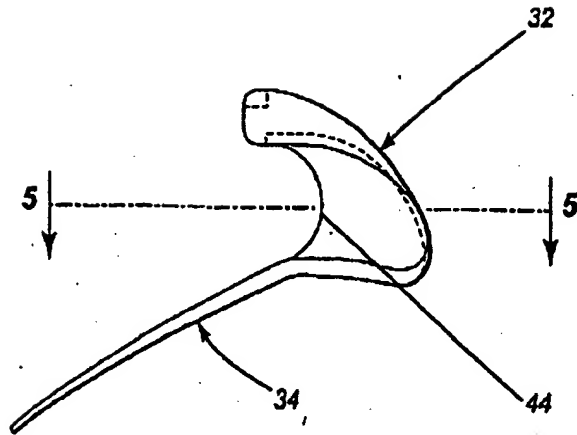


**Fig. 2**

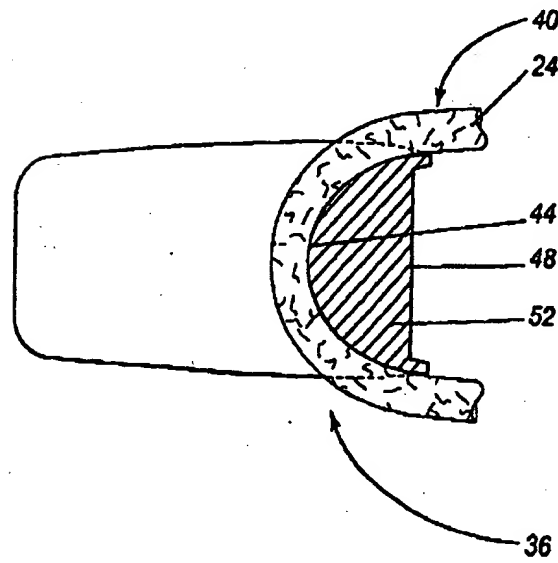


**Fig. 3**

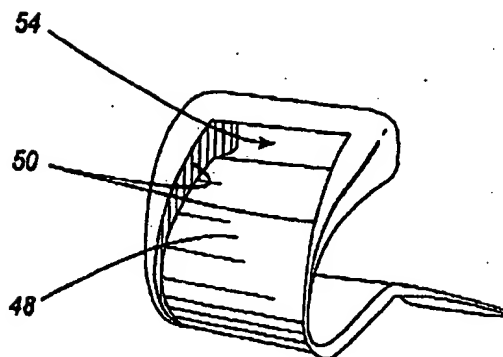




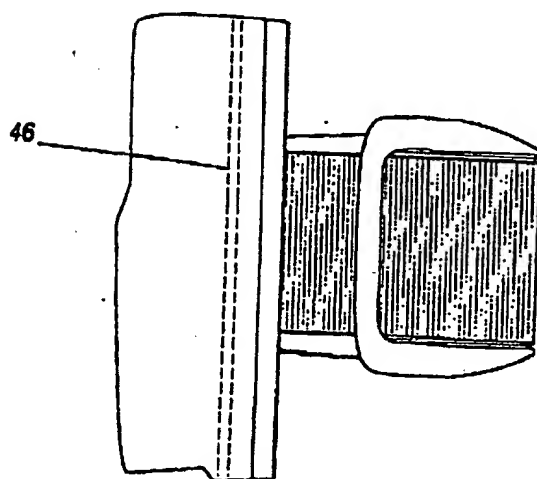
**Fig. 4**



**Fig. 5**



**Fig. 6**



**Fig. 7**